Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a detection circuit to detect whether a user identification device is within a predetermined proximity of a computer system; and

a control circuit coupled with the detection circuit to cause ~~an operating system of~~ the computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity and to cause ~~the operating system of~~ the computer system to be in ~~an inactive~~ a low-power state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity, wherein transition ~~of the operating system from the inactive state to the~~ between low-power and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the user identification device comprises a transmitter to transmit wireless signals and the detector comprises a receiver to receive the wireless signals from the user identification device.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a transmitter to transmit wireless signals to the user identification device, wherein the user identification device comprises a reflective device to reflect the wireless signals to the detection circuit.

7-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

determining whether a user identification device is within a predetermined proximity of a computer system;

causing the ~~operating system of the~~ computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity of the computer system; and

causing the ~~operating system of the~~ computer system to be in ~~an inactive~~ a low-power state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity of the computer system, wherein transition ~~of the operating system from the inactive state to the~~ between low-power and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein determining whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system further comprises:

transmitting a wireless signal;

detecting whether the wireless signal is reflected by the user identification device;

determining, from the reflected signal, whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein determining whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system further comprises:

transmitting a wireless signal;

detecting whether an acknowledge signal is transmitted by the user identification device in response to the wireless signal; and

determining, from the acknowledge signal, whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein determining whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system further comprises:

detecting a signal transmitted by the user identification device; and

determining, from the signal, whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system.

18. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-accessible medium providing access to sequences of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to:

determine whether a user identification device is within a predetermined proximity of computer system;

cause the ~~operating system of the~~ computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity of the computer system; and

cause the ~~operating system of the~~ computer system to be in ~~an inactive~~ low-power state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity of the computer system, wherein transition ~~of the operating system from the inactive state to the~~ between low-power and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

19-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or more processors to determine whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system further comprises sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the one ormore processors to:

transmit a wireless signal;

detect whether the wireless signal is reflected by the user identification device;

determine, from the reflected signal, whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system.

23. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or more processors to determine whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system further comprises sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the one or more processors to:

transmit a wireless signal;

detect whether an acknowledge signal is transmitted by the user identification device in response to the wireless signal; and

determine, from the acknowledge signal, whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system.

24. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the sequences of instructions that cause the one or more processors to determine whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system further comprises sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the one or more processors to:

detect a signal transmitted by the user identification device; and

determine, from the signal, whether the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity to the computer system.

25. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

detecting when a predetermined device enters a predetermined region with respect to ~~an electronic device~~ a computer system; and

causing the ~~electronic device~~ computer system to boot up in response to the predetermined device entering the predetermined region.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 wherein determining when the predetermined device enters the predetermined region with respect to the ~~electronic device~~ computer system further comprises:

transmitting a wireless signal;

detecting whether the wireless signal is reflected by the predetermined device;

determining, from the reflected signal, whether the predetermined device is within the predetermined region with respect to the ~~electronic device~~ computer system.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 wherein determining when the predetermined device enters the predetermined region with respect to the ~~electronic device~~ computer system further comprises:

transmitting a wireless signal;

detecting whether an acknowledge signal is transmitted by the predetermined device in response to the wireless signal; and

determining, from the acknowledge signal, whether the predetermined device is within the predetermined region with respect to the ~~electronic device~~ computer system.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25 wherein determining when the predetermined device enters the predetermined region with respect to the ~~electronic device~~ computer system further comprises:

detecting a signal transmitted by the predetermined device; and

determining, from the signal, whether the predetermined device is within the predetermined region to the electronic device.

29-32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) ~~An electronic device~~ A computer system comprising:

a detector that detects when a predetermined device is within a predetermined range of the ~~electronic device~~ computer system; and

a control circuit that causes the ~~electronic device~~ computer system to boot up in response to the predetermined device entering the predetermined range.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~electronic device~~ the computer system of claim 33 wherein the predetermined device comprises a transmitter to transmit wireless signals and the detector comprises a receiver to receive the wireless signals from the predetermined device.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~electronic device~~ computer system of claim 33 further comprising a transmitter to transmit wireless signals to the predetermined device, wherein the predetermined device comprises a reflective device to reflect the wireless signals to the detection circuit.

36-41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the computer system comprises a desktop computer system.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the computer system comprises a system within a kiosk.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the computer system comprises a teller machine.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the user identification device comprises an identification badge.

46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the user identification device comprises a key fob.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the user identification device identifies an associated user as a member of a group of authorized users.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the computer system comprises a desktop computer system.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the computer system comprises a system within a kiosk.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the computer system comprises a teller machine.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the user identification device comprises an identification badge.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the user identification device comprises a key fob.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the user identification device identifies an associated user as a member of a group of authorized users.

54. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the computer system comprises a desktop computer system.

55. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the computer system comprises a system within a kiosk.

56. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the computer system comprises a teller machine.

57. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the user identification device comprises an identification badge.

58. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the user identification device comprises a key fob.

59. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 18 wherein the user identification device identifies an associated user as a member of a group of authorized users.

60. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a detection circuit, capable of receiving wireless signals indicating Global Positioning System coordinates of a user identification device, to detect whether a user identification device is within a predetermined proximity of a computer system; and

a control circuit coupled with the detection circuit to cause a program running on the computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity and to cause the program to be in an inactive state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity, wherein transition of the program between inactive and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

61. (New) The apparatus of claim 60 wherein the program comprises an operating system.

62. (New) The apparatus of claim 60 wherein the program comprises an application program.

63. (New) The apparatus of claim 60 wherein the inactive state comprises a locked state to deny access to the program.

64. (New) A method comprising:

determining whether a user identification device is within a predetermined proximity of a computer system by receiving a wireless signal, comprising Global Positioning System coordinates, from the user identification device;

causing a program running on the computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity of the computer system; and

causing the program to be in an inactive state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity of the computer system, wherein transition of the program between inactive and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

65. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein the program comprises an operating system.

66. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein the program comprises an application program

67. (New) The method of claim 64 wherein the inactive state comprises a locked state to deny access to the program.

68. (New) An article comprising a machine-accessible medium providing access to sequences of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to:

determine whether a user identification device is within a predetermined proximity of a computer system by receiving a wireless signal, comprising Global Positioning System coordinates, from the user identification device;

cause a program running on the computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity of the computer system; and

cause the program to be in an inactive state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity of the computer system, wherein transition of the program between inactive and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

69. (New) The article of claim 68 wherein the program comprises an operating system.

70. (New) The article of claim 68 wherein the program comprises an application program.

71. (New) The article of claim 68 wherein the inactive state comprises a locked state to deny access to the program.

72. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a detection circuit to transmit a wireless signal to a user identification device, comprising a wireless signal reflector, and to determine whether the user identification device is within a predetermined proximity of a computer system by measuring the elapsed time between a first time when the signal is transmitted and a second time when the signal returns to the detection circuit after reflecting off of the identification device; and

a control circuit coupled with the detection circuit to cause a program running on the computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device

is within the predetermined proximity and to cause the program to be in an inactive state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity, wherein transition of the program between inactive and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

73. (New) The apparatus of claim 72 wherein the program comprises an operating system.

74. (New) The apparatus of claim 72 wherein the program comprises an application program.

75. (New) The apparatus of claim 72 wherein the inactive state comprises a locked state to deny access to the program.

76. (New) A method comprising:

determining whether a user identification device, comprising a wireless signal reflector, is within a predetermined proximity of a computer system by transmitting a wireless signal and measuring the elapsed time between a first time when the signal is transmitted and a second time when the signal returns after reflecting off of the identification device;

causing program running on the computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity of the computer system; and

causing the program to be in an inactive state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity of the computer system, wherein transition of the program between inactive and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

77. (New) The method of claim 76 wherein the program comprises an operating system.

78. (New) The method of claim 76 wherein the program comprises an application program.

79. (New) The method of claim 76 wherein the inactive state comprises a locked state to deny access to the program.

80. (New) An article comprising a machine-accessible medium providing access to sequences of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to:

determine whether a user identification device, comprising a wireless signal reflector, is within a predetermined proximity of computer system by transmitting a wireless signal and measuring the elapsed time between a first time when the signal is transmitted and a second time when the signal returns after reflecting off of the identification device;

cause a program running on the computer system to be in a normal operating state when the user identification device is within the predetermined proximity of the computer system; and

cause the program to be in an inactive state when the user identification device is not within the predetermined proximity of the computer system, wherein transition of the program between inactive and normal operating states occurs without interaction between the user and the computer system.

81. (New) The article of claim 80 wherein the program comprises an operating system.

82. (New) The article of claim 80 wherein the program comprises an application program.

83. (New) The article of claim 80 wherein the inactive state comprises a locked state to deny access to the program.